

September 2020 Newsletter

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the 2020-2021 school year. Boy have I missed everyone. As we know, there will be lots of changes to our school routines— it is going to take some getting used to! We thank you for your patience & understanding as we work together to learn safely together. I know you will also understand that things will be changing and we will all have to adapt along the way. We are not able to have visitors in the school without an appointment set up in advance. When dropping off students, please ring the doorbell—we will meet you at the front door. Microwaves are unavailable (to staff or students) & we are unable to accept cash at the school without prior arrangement — please contact us at the school if you have questions. Note: Milk will be available to order online as of the second week of school.

Gr. 4-8 students & all staff have been mandated to wear masks at school & on the bus. Students in JK-Gr. 3 are encouraged to wear masks—we will be working together to make this as comfortable for everyone as possible. We plan to spend lots of learning time outside—we do not have to wear masks when outside.

We extend an extra special welcome to our new families & new staff: lots of faces to welcome to our school community! All staff have been hard at work setting up our classrooms & getting the school ready for everyone's arrival, keeping physical distancing protocols in mind. We're excited to get started!

Junior (K-3) Classroom: Ms. Cynthia Wolfgram (Teacher), Ms. Goulet (E.A.) and Ms. Oliver (E.A.)

Senior (4-8) Classroom: Ms. Ashley Schutt (Teacher), Ms. Poff/Ms. Manchester (Social Studies, Music, Health)

School Support Counsellor: Ms. Michelle Kicksee Secretary and Lunch/Yard Supervisor: Ms. Erin Mask

Custodian: Mr. Adam Wannamaker

There are many opportunities for you to be involved in our school community. One way is to join School Council. We will be scheduling a Google Meet for our first School Council meeting On September 21st! If you know of anyone who would be interested in joining School Council, please encourage them to join us.

More than ever, please contact us if you have questions/concerns. We are always open for your feedback. We look forward to working with you & your child throughout the year to provide a safe & nurturing learning environment that supports the well-being of all members of our school community.

We're all in this together,



Thank You School Council

A big thank you to the **Whitney Public School Council** who has offered to purchase a cloth mask for **all students** who do not already have one that they really like. During the first week of school the students will have an opportunity to choose a mask from a picture and will receive the mask by the end of the week.





1st Inst Block	08:45 - 10:45
Recess	10:45 - 11:00
2nd Inst Block	11:00 - 12:00
Lunch	12:00 - 1:00
3rd Inst Block	1:00 - 3:00
Recess	3:00 - 3:15
Dismissal	03:15



@Whitney_Public School

Kids Help Phone

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Student mental health and well-being is a priority for student success.

During school hours, there are school supports and mental health services available for all students. For more information, please talk to the School Support Counsellor and/or Principal.

Managing stress is an important developmental task and crisis support lines have been designed for children and youth which are safe and helpful resources.

Crisis/support lines are staffed with professionally trained counsellors that are always available to offer safe and confidential services to support children and youth. Within the Renfrew County District School Board, we are promoting awareness of the **Kids Help Phone** and **Good2Talk**. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the RCDSB Mental Health Leader, Lisa LaRiviere at 613-735-0151 ext. 3332.

NEW PROCESS: Milk Orders ONLINE

The Renfrew County District School Board is standardizing the milk programs for all schools throughout the Board to:

- ~ improve consistency among schools
- ~ increase the ease of use for parents
- ~ reduce administrative time
- ~ reduce cash in schools and the risks that cash handling poses

We ask that families order milk through School Cash Online selecting whichever days of the month your child would like to receive milk. We are no longer able to accept daily cash payments for milk & special lunch orders, but if you are unable to use the online ordering system, please call the school to make arrangements to order milk for the month and send in a payment once per month.

If you need help to register for School Cash Online, see the last page of newsletter for instructions or feel free to call the school anytime for assistance at 613-637-2171

Check out the Whitney Public School Website at:

wps@rcdsb.on.ca

Busing for 2020-2021

Jim & Edith Robinson -- Bus Operator

Bus Driver: Joe Route #346

R&L Bus Lines - Laurie Evans - Bus Operator

Bus Driver: Tammy -

Route #349



Please Note: There will be

NO BUS PASSES

Permitted this year

Regular home stops and daycare stops will remain in place but if your child needs to go to another friend or relative's home after school, they will need to be picked up and driven there

WPS Parent Council

The next school council meeting will take place as a Google Meet

Monday, September 21st

at 5:30 pm

All parents are welcome to join the meeting from their home computer. Please let us know if you would like to attend and we will send you a digital invitation.

Kids Plus Insurance

Affordable protection that works!

Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance reimburses for accident-related medical and dental expenses not covered by provincial, extended health or dental plans.

Apply today at <u>kidsplus.ca</u> to cover your kids for the 2020-21 school year!



School Cash

(Ordering items online)

We are hoping to have ALL parents and guardians at Whitney Public School register with School Cash to order items online (milk/subs). Please feel free to call the office if you'd like some help to register or you can follow the instructions we have attached below. Thank you



For safety and efficiency reasons, Renfrew County District School Board would like to reduce the amount of Cash & Checks coming into our school. Please join the thousands of parents who have already registered and are enjoying the convenience of paying ONLINE! It takes less than 5 minutes to register. Please follow these step-by-step instructions, so you will begin to receive email notifications regarding upcoming events involving your child(ren).

NOTE: If you require assistance, select the GET HELP option in the top right hand corner of the screen.

Step 1: Register

- a) If you have not registered, please go to the School Cash Online home page https://rcdsb.schoolcashonline.com/ and select the "Get Started Today" option.
- b) Complete each of the three Registration Steps
 *For Security Reasons your password, requires <u>8 characters</u>,

 Of those 8 characters you need, one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter and a number.

Step 2: Confirmation Email

A registration confirmation email will be forwarded to you. Click on the link provided inside the email to confirm your email and School Cash Online account.

The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site prompting you to sign into your account. Use your email address and password just created with your account.

Step 3: Find Student

Note: Student Number is Not Required

This step will connect your children to your account.

- a) Enter the School Board Name
- b) Enter the School Name
- c) Enter Your Child's Name & Birth Date
- d) Select Continue
- e) On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select Continue
- f) Your child has been added to your account

Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student

If you have more children, select "Add Another Student" option and repeat the steps above. 5 children can be added to one parent account.

If you do not wish to add additional children, select

"View Items For Students" option. A listing of available items for purchase will be displayed.

